1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

a) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and

b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

2. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

a) the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;

b) the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; wherein all T nucleotides are replaced by U nucleotides;

c) a nucleotide sequence complementary to (a) or (b); and

d) a fragment of (a), (b), or (c) that is at least 25 nucleotides in length.

3. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

a) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide that is at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:2;

b) a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

c) a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid having the cDNA sequence contained within ATCC Accession No. _____.

4. A substantially pure polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and

b) a polypeptide comprising at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2.

5. The polypeptide of claim 4, wherein the polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

6. A substantially pure polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO:1;

b) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the cDNA sequence contained within ATCC Accession No. _____.

7. The polypeptide of claim 6, wherein the polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

8. A method for detecting the presence of a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

a) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2;

in a sample, the method comprising the steps of:

i) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe which selectively hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecule; and

ii) determining whether the nucleic acid probe binds to the nucleic acid molecule in the sample.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the sample comprises mRNA.

10. A method for producing a substantially pure polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and

b) a polypeptide comprising at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2;

the method comprising the step of culturing a host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule encoding the polypeptide under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the host cell is a bacterium.

12. A method for detecting the presence of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and

b) a polypeptide comprising at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2;

in a biological sample, the method comprising the steps of:

i) contacting the sample with a compound which selectively binds to the polypeptide; and

ii) determining whether the compound binds to the polypeptide in the sample.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the compound which binds to the polypeptide is an antibody.